

NBC BRIEFING

20 August 1958

BACKGROUND: BRITISH PROPOSALS FOR CYPRUS

- I. Plan would be in operation for seven years. During this time UK would maintain sovereignty. At end of seven-year period UK will try to establish a tridominium but no final solution agreeable to all parties--partition, self-determination, or other--is precluded.
- II. The government would be composed of following:
 - A. Two Communal Legislative Assemblies, one Greek, one Turk.
 1. Members would be elected by vote of own community.
 2. Each Assembly would have responsibility for educational and social welfare matters for its community. Later, responsibilities might be enlarged.
 3. Votes on all other subjects would be purely advisory to Ministerial Council.
 - B. Ministerial Council.
 1. Would include the British Governor as Chairman, 4 Greek Cypriots and 2 Turks Cypriots, elected by their respective Communal Legislatures, plus one representative appointed by the Greek Government, and one representative appointed by the Turkish Government.
 2. Decision of Council would be final on all matters except defense; foreign affairs, and internal security, which must be approved by the Governor. In addition, Governor has veto power over discriminatory legislation.

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III. UK expressed hope that an arrangement could be made with Athens and Ankara whereby a Cypriot could obtain either Greek or Turkish nationality in addition to his British citizenship.

IV. Modifications now proposed include:

- A. Greece and Turkey to appoint official representatives to confer with Cyprus Governor but will not sit on Governor's Council as originally proposed; London informed Ankara, however, that functions these representatives will remain same;**
- B. Proposal for dual nationality for Cypriots (Greek-British or Turk-British) indefinitely postponed;**
- C. Vague reference to possible creation island-wide legislature, superior to Turk and Greek assemblies which are to handle communal affairs;**
- D. Directive to Governor to assist creation separate Greek and Turkish municipal councils.**

~~TOP SECRET~~